

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ABIDJA 03361 021409Z

46

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 USIE-00

CPR-02 PER-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 AID-20

IO-14 DRC-01 /145 W

----- 007480

O R 021315Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8225

INFO AMEMBASSY NIAMEY IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ACCRA

AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

AMEMBASSY COTONOU

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LOME

AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L ABIDJAN 3361

E O 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PFOR, NG

SUBJ: HOUPHOUET BOIGNY'S VIEWS ON SENDING U.S. AMBASSADOR-DESIGNATE
TO NIAMEY

REFS: A. STATE 86938 NOTAL; B. ABIDJAN 3073

1. AT DEPARTMENT'S REQUEST, I TELEPHONED PRESIDENT HOUPHOUET
BOIGNY AT HIS YAMOOUSSOUKRO HOME THIS MORNING TO SEEK HIS UNDERSTAND-
ING
FOR OUR BELIEF THAT WE SHOULD RESUME FULLY NORMAL RELATIONS WITH
THE GON AND ASK OUR AMBASSADOR-DESIGNATE TO PROCEED TO NIAMEY.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 ABIDJA 03361 021409Z

2. I TOLD HIM I HAD REPORTED HIS EARLIER VIEWS ON THIS SUBJECT

(REF B) AND ASSURED HIM WE SHARED HIS ABHORRENCE OF COUPS D'ETAT AS WELL AS DEEPLY REGRETTING DEATH OF MME. DIORI AND WOUNDING OF DIORI CHILDREN. NEVERTHELESS, I SAID, IT WAS OUR POLICY, LIKE HIS, NOT TO INTERFERE IN THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF OTHER COUNTRIES. WE ARE SATISFIED THAT THE SITUATION IN NIGER IS NOW CALM AND EVIDENTLY STABLE. WHAT IS MORE, WE CONTINUING TO ENGAGE IN AN IMPORTANT HUMANITARIAN EFFORT IN NIGER, AS IN OTHER SAHELIAN COUNTRIES, AN EFFORT WHICH REQUIRES CLOSE SUPERVISION AND FULL COOPERATION BETWEEN DONOR AND RECIPIENT GOVERNMENTS. TO ASSURE THIS SUPERVISION, I CONCLUDED, WE ARE ANXIOUS TO ASK OUR AMBASSADOR-DESIGNATE TO PROCEED TO NIAMEY IN THE NEAR FUTURE. I NOTED THAT HE HAD BEEN ON HIS WAY AT THE TIME OF THE COUP, AND HAD BEEN RECALLED TO WASHINGTON.

3. I SAID I WAS CALLING, THEREFORE, TO SEEK HIS UNDERSTANDING AND SUPPORT OF OUR CONVICTION THAT WE SHOULD RESUME FULLY NORMAL RELATIONS WITH GON.

4. THE PRESIDENT AGREED WITH EVERYTHING I HAD SAID AND EXPRESSED THE VIEW THAT OUR AMBASSADOR-DESIGNATE SHOULD GO TO NIAMEY. IT WAS BETTER, HE SAID, TO HAVE FULL RELATIONS WITH THESE NEW, INEXPERIENCED MILITARY LEADERS. THEY DO NOT KNOW, HE SAID, HOW TO ORGANIZE THEIR AFFAIRS AND THEY NEED HELP TO DO SO. FOOD IS AVAILABLE IN NIAMEY, HE ADDED, BUT IT IS NOT GETTING OUT TO THE PEOPLE IN NEED ELSEWHERE IN THE COUNTRY.

5. I THANKED THE PRESIDENT FOR HIS UNDERSTANDING AND SUPPORT, WISHED HIM A SUCCESSFUL TRIP TO THE NORTHWEST (HE LEAVES FOR A WEEK OR TEN DAYS ON MAY 6) AND EXPRESSED THE HOPE OF SEEING HIM AGAIN SOON AFTER HIS RETURN.

6. COMMENT: I AM SURE PRESIDENT HOUPHOUET BOIGNY VERY MUCH APPRECIATED DEPARTMENT'S CONSIDERATION IN SEEKING HIS VIEWS ON THIS SENSITIVE MATTER SO CLOSE TO HIS HEART AND POLITICAL CONCERNS. HE WAS TOTALLY FORTHCOMING.
SMITH

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS ESTABLISHMENT, AMBASSADOR DESIGNATE, DISASTER RELIEF, GOVERNMENT OVERTHROW, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 02 MAY 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974ABIDJA03361
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740105-0442
From: ABIDJAN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740581/aaaacura.tel
Line Count: 96
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: A. STATE 86938 NOTAL; B. ABIDJAN 307, 3
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 19 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <19 APR 2002 by shawdg>; APPROVED <15 JAN 2003 by garlanwa>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: HOUPHOUET BOIGNY'S VIEWS ON SENDING U.S. AMBASSADOR-DESIGNATE TO NIAMEY
TAGS: PINT, PFOR, NG, US, IV, (HOUPHOUET-BOIGNY, FELIX)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005